



Federal Aviation Administration  
Alaskan Region

Capstone Program Management Office  
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Anchorage Alaska 99501

# Capstone Quarterly Report

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00

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April - June 2000

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## Capstone To Date

Several major milestones toward our goal of improving aviation safety and efficiency by putting cost effective, new technology avionics equipment into commercially operated aircraft in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta region has been achieved during this, the third quarter of FY00. Along with the many achievements came some disappointments.

A downturn happened On April 21<sup>st</sup>, when the FAA's Chief Financial Officer issued a rescission notice affecting all unobligated FY-1999 F&E funds. The CFO advised these funds were being withdrawn to help pay for \$30 million in storm damages to agency facilities. The Capstone Office generated a reclama asking for reinstatement of Capstone's FY-1999 funds frozen by the notice. We appealed, believing the Capstone Program Office and other involved divisions had made all necessary good faith efforts to obligate these funds before the rescission. For Capstone, the rescission affected \$321,000 in aircraft installation funds, and \$187,000 in telecommunications funds. The Capstone team met on June 8<sup>th</sup>, in the aftermath of the FY-1999 F&E funding rescission, to reallocate available FY-2000 funds for the remainder of the fiscal year. The objective was to ensure funds are available for the most critical elements, and protected from further rescissions. Spending priorities included continued installation of avionics and providing radar-like service in the Bethel area by January 2001. By consensus, the team identified projects that would be deferred until FY-2001 funds become available.

We are also sorry to report that Deborah Sweeley has left the Capstone team to pursue her Ph.D. Deborah, a National Implementation Support Contract employee, has done a great job overseeing the avionics installation program. She will be greatly missed.

On a happier note we are especially pleased to announce that John R. Hallinan, Capstone Program Manager, was selected as the Anchorage Outstanding Federal Employee of the Year for 1999. The Anchorage Federal Executives Association announced the results at an awards luncheon in the Hilton Hotel on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Planning for the Capstone Demonstration in August is continuing. An announcement is posted on the web site and invitations are being prepared. A detailed schedule of events will be published in late-July. The William J. Hughes Technical Center's B-727 aircraft will be used for flight demonstrations and to validate the ADS-B service around Bethel and southwest Alaska as compared to mathematical models. Technical observers will include media representatives, FAA executives, and others. Three ground broadcast transceivers will be utilized during the demonstration: Bethel, Cape Newenham, and Cape Romanzof. At the University of Alaska Anchorage Aviation Technology Complex on Merrill Field in Anchorage, briefings will be provided and live displays of ADS-B aircraft position reports will be available. Industry representatives associated with Capstone technology and applications will demonstrate their products. To support the planned August 22-24 Capstone

Demonstration, we have negotiated with the Anchorage Sheraton and the Regal Alaskan Hotel to hold blocks of rooms within the Federal per diem rate. To take advantage of this rate the hotel will expect guests to call for a reservation not later than July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Some additional highlights of this quarter were:

#### **April:**

- On April 5, Donald Nellis, Manager of the Spectrum Planning & International Division, ASR-200, reported that use of 981 MHz for UAT operations has been approved for experimental (no protection from interference) operations in the state of Alaska. FAA also has verbal approval from Department of Defense for operational use (protected from interference) of 981 MHz in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta. Unfortunately, Don advises it is unlikely that Alaska-wide operational use of 981 MHz (or any other frequency in the 960-1215 MHz band) will be granted until JTIDS issues have been resolved. That resolution will probably not happen for at least a year. Capstone has decided to commit to 981 MHz and has proceeded with a project to change frequencies of the Fairbanks VOR and TACAN. Capstone has also issued a contract to UPS AT to begin engineering work to convert all Capstone equipment.
- On April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Leonard Kirk, University of Alaska Anchorage, conducted a training class on the Capstone equipment at the Merrill Field complex. Leonard reports that 43 pilots and check airmen have been trained in the proper use and operation of the Capstone equipment so far. Future

training segments have already been prepared to cover IFR applications of the equipment when approved.

- On April 13<sup>th</sup> a Decision Paper was approved to coordinate the installation of a D-Brite display in the Bethel ATCT cab. The display, driven from Micro-EARTS, will depict radar targets and ADS-B targets of aircraft operating in the vicinity of Bethel. Aircraft within radar coverage, including Capstone aircraft, will be depicted on the D-Brite as radar targets. Capstone aircraft flying below radar coverage will be displayed as an ADS-B target. The D-Brite display will be used by the Bethel controllers in accordance with existing Air Traffic policy for VFR towers. It is desired that the D-Brite should be installed as early as possible, and, if possible, in time for the Micro-EARTS Operational Readiness Demonstration (ORD) in August 2000. Funds for the display and spares were transferred to Headquarters yesterday via ACQUIRE.
- Activities during April at the WJHTC included extensive government acceptance testing of new Micro-EnRoute Automated Radar Tracking System (Micro-EARTS) software. This software provides ADS aircraft position information to air traffic controllers and will be used to provide “radar-like” ATC services in areas outside of and below today’s radar environment. The new software will be deployed to the Anchorage ARTCC in June to support the Capstone Program. The testing was directed by the Micro-EARTS IPT (AUA-640), conducted by the Micro-EARTS Operational Support Branch (AOS-440), with full aircraft and

avionics support provided by the WJHTC (ACT-300).

## **May:**

- Carl McCullough, Director of FAA's Office of Communications, Navigation and Surveillance visited the Capstone Program Office during the week of May 15<sup>th</sup>. He received program briefings and met most Capstone team members. Later, Carl and Richard Lay, Safe Flight 21 Program Manager, met with Steve Creamer, Manager of Anchorage ARTCC, and toured the facility. Steve and Dave Palmer brought them up to date on certification testing and plans to achieve Initial Operating Capability for controller display of Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) in June. Carl and Rich also visited the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) aviation center, the Bethel ATCT, and typical village airports in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta including Kwethluk and Russian Mission.
- The Capstone Program participated in the annual Alaska Airmen's Association's State Aviation Conference and Trade Show at Anchorage International Airport May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. At the Capstone booth, representatives demonstrated two Capstone pilot training simulators and Internet access to the Alaskan Weather Cameras installed throughout the state. Ptarmigan Air furnished their Beaver N144Q on floats for use as a static display of a typical Capstone avionics installation. At the banquet on Saturday evening, Alaskan Regional Administrator Pat Poe presented Capstone Awards of Excellence to eight members of the

aviation industry who have provided extensive support for the program. The recipients were Jim Hill, Will Johnson, Richard Harding, Ginny Hyatt, Paul Bowers, Leonard Kirk, Tom Wardleigh, and Felix Maguire.

## **June:**

- Installation of Capstone's operational ground broadcast transceiver (GBT) at Cape Newenham Minimally Attended Radar (MAR) began June 1<sup>st</sup>. Because snow was still blocking the summit road, Raytheon personnel Dan Robbins and Tom Jessup moved 1,000 pounds of materials and equipment by dragging a sled through knee-deep snow from the upper tram house to the dome. The installation was extended an extra day to June 4<sup>th</sup>. The GBT installation at Cape Romanzof, where work must be coordinated with the U.S. Air Force, is scheduled beginning the first week of July.
- On June 9<sup>th</sup> the Capstone office forwarded a statement of work to contracting for the University of Alaska Anchorage to incorporate additional data collection for evaluation of IFR services delivered via the Capstone system. The University's original evaluation contract did not cover this subject. The contract add-on is for the gathering of data to include interviews with approximately 100 pilots twice each year of the demonstration, during summer and winter seasons.
- A final rule was published in the Federal Register on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2000, establishing Class E airspace over the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta area in support of the Capstone Program. Within the

prescribed area, controlled airspace is established from 1,200 feet above terrain upwards to the base of existing Class E airspace at 14,500 feet MSL.

- The joint acceptance inspection (JAI) for Mountain Village Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) was held on June 20, 2000. The first Capstone Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) was commissioned at Mountain Village on Jun 29<sup>th</sup>, 2000. It is available for dial-up service at 907-591-2511. The Capstone homepage, [www.alaska.faa.gov/capstone](http://www.alaska.faa.gov/capstone) has a hyperlink to the Mountain Village weather cameras. The Anchorage NAS Implementation Center plans to include a weather camera installation at every AWOS site where telephone service will support connectivity. ANI-700 expects to have the other nine original AWOS sites commissioned by this autumn.
- The Capstone Micro-EARTS program was delivered by the Operational Support Service and installed at the Anchorage ARTCC on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The Micro-EARTS operations program prepared by Lockheed Martin was previously installed. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, the dual communications gateways were enabled allowing the successful display of ADS-B data on the controller's operational displays. Air Traffic coordination with Flight Standards in headquarters and the memorandum of understanding with the National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA) remain to be completed.
- Installation of the second "operational" GBT was completed at Bethel and aircraft position data is being received at Anchorage ARTCC. The operational

GBT's actually use two redundant transceivers at each site. The Bethel GBT was certified on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Hugh Barber, AAL-470, developed an agreement with the National Airway Systems Engineering Division, AOS-200, regarding a system level interim maintenance notice for the Ground Based Transceiver (GBT). The notice was needed to certify the GBT portion of the Capstone system. Preparation of the final maintenance handbook could take up to a year.

- On June 27<sup>th</sup>, while in Anchorage for the NATCA convention, Administrator Jane Garvey received a Capstone briefing from Regional Administrator Pat Poe. When the Administrator visited the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) Industry Advisory meeting, Felix Maguire, President of the Alaska Airmen's Association and a principal member of the Capstone Industry Council, presented her with a fleece vest decorated with the Capstone insignia and FAA emblem in appreciation for her support of the program. Jane and Steve Brown, Associate Administrator for Air Traffic Services, then departed Merrill Field for a demonstration ride in a Capstone-equipped Cessna Model 180. To provide an ADS-B target for display in the cockpit of the Administrator's aircraft, another pilot activated UAA's C-180 UAT datalink. During the flight, August Asay of the Capstone team demonstrated the GPS nav/comm, multifunction display, moving map, and terrain database. From Merrill Field, they flew along the Chugach Mountain Range and then to Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport. After the Administrator departed for Washington, Steve continued the

demonstration flight up the Eagle River Valley and then on to Palmer where he visited the Flight Service Station.

- Following a technical analysis of proposals, the Federal Aviation Administration awarded a \$40,600 contract to ARNAV Systems, Incorporated, on June 29<sup>th</sup> for weather products to be used in the Capstone Program. The contract will provide for delivery of Flight Information Services (FIS), aviation routine weather reports (known as METAR), aviation selected special weather reports (known as SPECI), and aerodrome forecasts (known as TAF) products pertinent to Alaska.

To minimize aircraft downtime in the event of an equipment malfunction, two sets of “loaner” Capstone avionics were shipped to Bethel. Sherry Libby, Airway Facilities Logistics Specialist in Bethel, will issue the replacement units to participating carriers when requested. In this way, operators who need maintenance service by UPS Aviation Technologies should not be inconvenienced.

Working with industry continues. Members of the Capstone team are continuing to meet monthly with the Bethel Capstone Working Group in round table discussion meetings. The meetings serve as an information exchange program. In addition to the regularly scheduled Industry Council meetings some of the other meetings that were conducted this quarter were:

- ◆ Capstone representatives briefed U.S. Air Force representatives on June 1<sup>st</sup> regarding the Capstone Program. At the direction of Lt. General Thomas Case, they are seeking potential safety improvements at ranges and MOAs in

Alaska. They are currently investigating improvements needed for the ranges and MOAs in Alaska.

- ◆ John Hallinan, Capstone Program Manager, attended a meeting in Juneau on June 6<sup>th</sup> with Alaska Airlines, the Juneau Flight Standards District Office, air traffic control tower personnel, and airport management to discuss ways to avoid potential runway incursion accidents. They are interested in possible applications of Capstone UAT datalink transmitters mounted on airport maintenance vehicles to provide position reporting.
- ◆ During the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>, Capstone representatives met in Anchorage with individuals from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration’s (NASA’s) Aviation Safety Program: Synthetic Vision project. NASA is interested in Capstone’s approach to using the terrain database and providing a pilot display. NASA may be interested in developing a future partnership with the Capstone Program.

To continue our forward progress and to meet the target date of January 1, 2001 to use the Capstone ADS-B signal for “radar-like” services in the Bethel area we are working several areas that, at this time, have not been fully settled and are considered “watch items”.

#### ❖ Activity 5

- ❖ Airspace
  - Routes
  - Approaches
- ❖ Avionics
  - Installations

- ❖ FIS
  - Delivery
  - NEXRAD product

- ❖ Micro-EARTS
  - Certification

- ❖ Operator Acceptance
  - Cultural Issues  
(enforcement, etc.)

- ❖ Procedures
  - Approaches
  - Enroute
  - SVFR

- ❖ Internet Dispatcher Access

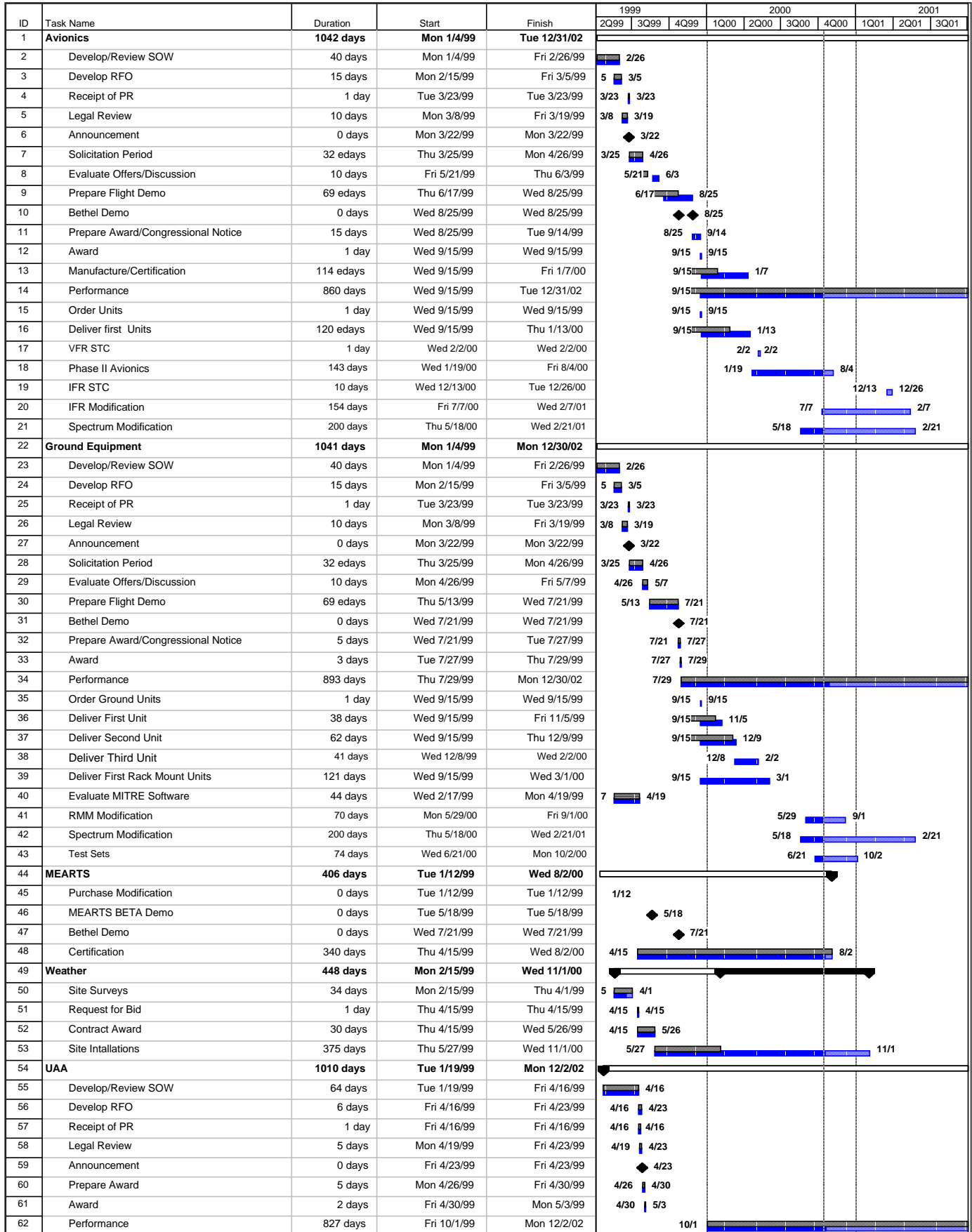
- ❖ Spectrum
  - Frequency
  - Availability

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# Capstone Timeline



## Spend Plan for FY 99 F&E Funding as of July 17, 2000

Spend Plan	1Q 99	2Q 99	3Q 99	4Q 99	1Q 00	2Q 00	3Q 00	4Q 00	1Q 01	2Q 01	3Q 01	4Q 01	Totals
Avionics				\$3.6M	\$400K		(-\$321K)						\$3.679M
MEARTS		\$2.8M											\$2.800M
Ground				\$700K	\$500K		(-187K)						\$1.013M
FIS	\$250K				\$141K	\$109K							\$500M
UAA					\$500K								\$500M
MISC/SPO	\$150K	\$340K	\$20K	\$50K	\$400K	\$40K	(-\$14K)						\$860M
AWOS		\$30K	\$620K	\$350K									\$1.000M
Totals	\$4M	\$3.17M	\$64M	\$4.7M	\$1.941M	\$1.149M	(-\$522M)						\$10.478M
Travel	\$7.5K	\$26K	\$9.5K	\$57K									\$1M

### Capstone Spend Plan:

- a. 1Q 99: \$250K of FIS and \$150K of Misc/SPO (total \$400K) was allowed to stay in Washington, DC to assist AND-470 in funding Datalink Analyses by John Hopkins University and a SETA contract position.
- b. 2Q 99: \$2.8M to fund Micro EARTS modification, \$340K for starting up Capstone office and funding 2 NISC positions for 1 year, \$30K for AWOS.
- c. 3Q 99: \$20K for operation of Capstone Program Office. \$620K for AWOS.
- d. 4Q 99: \$3.4M obligated to purchasing 132 avionics equipment sets, simulator and training. \$700K to AF for purchase of 6 ground stations, engineering and installation support. \$50K for operation of Capstone Program Office. \$350K for AWOS.
- e. 1Q 00: \$500K obligated to UAA to provide training and safety study for Capstone. \$400K for installation of avionics sets. \$500K for ground stations. \$141K loaned from FIS to other Capstone programs. \$400K lease of Capstone Office, 3 NISC positions and operations.
- f. 2Q 00: \$20K for Capstone Program Office operation. \$50K lease of FIS data.
- g. 3Q00: \$20K lease for Capstone Office operation.
- h. 1Q 01: \$109K loaned to Ground, AWOS and SPO. Backfilled FIS with FY00 funds.
- i. 4Q 01: \$522K rescinded by ABU, April 20, 2000.

### Spend Plan for FY 00 F&E Funding as of July 17, 2000

Spend Plan	1Q 00	2Q 00	3Q 00	4Q 00	1Q 01	2Q 01	3Q 01	4Q 01	Totals
Avionics		\$.1M	\$.909M	\$.341M					<b>\$1.350M</b>
Ground		\$.25M	\$.938M	\$.233M					<b>\$1.421M</b>
Spectrum			\$.685M						<b>\$.685M</b>
FIS/TIS/Cert/Proc		\$.25M	\$.040M	\$.276M					<b>\$.566M</b>
MISC/SPO		\$.2M	\$.513M	\$.073M					<b>\$.786M</b>
AWOS			\$.532M	\$.160M					<b>\$.692M</b>
MITRE		.5M							<b>\$.5M</b>
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$1.3M</b>	<b>\$3.617M</b>	<b>\$1.083M</b>					<b>\$6M</b>
Travel	\$15K	\$40K	\$23K	\$22K					<b>\$.10M</b>

**Capstone Spend Plan:**

- a. 1Q 00:
- b. 2Q 00: \$200K for operation of Capstone Program Office. \$100K for avionics installations. \$250K for FIS/TIS and certification/procedures work. \$250K for finalizing first 12 ground stations. \$500K to fund 2 man-years of MITRE work.
- c. 3Q 00: \$513K for contract support and operation of Capstone Program Office. \$909K for avionics installations and modifications. \$532K for AWOS work in ANI.. \$40K for FIS/TIS and certification/procedures work. \$938K for additional ground station, installations, and certification work. \$685K for modifications of spectrum change in UATs.
- d. 4Q 00: \$130K for contract support and operation of Capstone Program Office. \$233K for contract engineering for ground stations. \$341K for avionics installations. \$276M for MEARTS modifications.

## **Status of Program Elements**

### **Element 1. Aircraft Equipment Package**

A. Coordinate and complete a Request For Information (RFI).	Completed
B. Coordinate and complete a Request For Offer (RFO).	Completed
C. Down select prospective vendor	Completed
D. Initial operational capability demonstration	Completed
E. Contract awarded	Completed
F. Install equipment	In Progress

### **Element 2. Obtain and Install Ground Infrastructure to Support ADS-B**

A. Coordinate and complete a Request For Information (RFI).	Completed
B. Coordinate and evaluate purchase of a Mitre Ground Station.	Cancelled
C. Coordinate and complete a Request for Offer (RFO).	Completed
D. Down select prospective vendor	Completed
E. Initial operational capability demonstration	Completed
F. Contract awarded	Completed
G. Install Ground Stations	In Progress

### **Element 3. Micro-EARTS Adaptation**

A. Procure modification to Micro-EARTS.	Completed
B. Conduct BETA Demo	Completed
C. Conduct design reviews	Completed
D. Certification	In Progress

**Element 4. Coordinate/Obtain/Implement Flight Information Services (FIS)**

A. National contractor selection. Completed

B. Select contractor Completed

**Element 5. Train Capstone Participants**

A. Complete statement of work. Completed

B. Issue contract Completed

C. Conduct Training In Progress

**Element 6. Obtain and Install Automated Weather Equipment**

A. Select prospective sites Completed

B. Perform site surveys Completed

C. Procure the automated weather equipment Completed

D. Install automated weather equipment In Progress

**Element 7 Conduct Safety and Human Factors Study**

A. Complete statement of work. Completed

B. Issue contract Completed

C. Conduct Study In Progress

## Program Elements

### 1. Aircraft Equipment Package

Objective	Purpose
<p>To equip up to 200 aircraft used by the commercial operators in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta region of Alaska with a government-furnished Global Positioning System (GPS) based avionics package.</p>	<p>A significant number of mid-air collisions, controlled flight into terrain incidents, and weather-related accidents can be avoided with new technologies incorporated into the Capstone avionics package. The Alaskan Region's "Capstone Program" is an accelerated effort to improve aviation safety and efficiency through installation of government-furnished Global Positioning System (GPS)-based avionics and data link communications suites in most commercial aircraft serving the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta area. Capstone-equipped aircraft will be used initially to validate three of the nine high priority Free Flight Operational Enhancements requested by RTCA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flight Information Services (FIS)</li> <li>• Cost Effective Controlled Flight Into Terrain (CFIT) Avoidance</li> <li>• Enhanced See and Avoid</li> </ul> <p>The Capstone program will provide real world information and experience that will provide enhanced safety and operational capabilities.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Progress/Outcomes</b></p> <p>A. Coordinate and complete a Request For Information (RFI).</p> <p><b><u>Progress: - Completed</u></b></p> <p>The Alaskan Region's Logistics Division published in the Commerce Business Daily a "Request for Information (RFI)." The RFI publicly announced to interested avionics vendors the FAA's proposed Capstone Program and requested submission of information on their products, services, and capabilities which are currently available, to meet the needs for the Capstone program. Information provided by the five vendors who responded will be considered as the FAA prepares performance specifications for Capstone Program avionics and ground transceiver equipment.</p>	

*Aircraft Equipment Package - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

B. Coordinate and complete a Request for Offer (RFO)

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

The Alaskan Region's Logistics Division in coordination with ACO, AND, AIR and the Industry Council is working to complete the RFO.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

The Alaskan Region's Logistics Division completed the RFO. The announcement was made on the internet March 22, 1999. The RFO will close April 26, 1999.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) for avionics suites will be published in hard copy controlled by the Logistics Division. Standard performance specifications common to the avionics industry are being utilized.

C. Down select prospective vendor

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

The Avionics RFO closed April 26, 1999. UPS Aviation Technologies (formerly II Morrow, Inc), an Oregon based subsidiary of United Parcel Service was down selected. UPS AT will be required to produce at least two sets of installed avionics (in aircraft provided by UPS AT), a ground station, and related software to demonstrate operation of the proposed avionics system, in flight, at Bethel, Alaska in August 1999. Following a successful flight demonstration, a production contract will be awarded. The number of avionics suites purchased, up to a maximum of 200, will be based on the total available budget of \$4 million. It is anticipated approximately 150 units will actually be procured.

*Aircraft Equipment Package - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

D. Conduct Initial operational capability demonstration

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Planning**

An initial operational capability demonstration is scheduled for August 25, 1999. UPS AT will produce at least two sets of installed avionics (in aircraft provided by UPS AT), a ground station, and related software to demonstrate operation of the proposed avionics system, in flight, at Bethel Alaska.

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

An initial operational capability demonstration was completed on August 25, 1999. . UPS AT, using a company-owned Beechcraft King Air airplane and a specially equipped Cessna Model 208 Caravan furnished by PenAir, UPS AT, demonstrated that its proposed Global Positioning System (GPS) navigation unit, multi-function cockpit display (MFD), and datalink radio system would meet FAA performance specifications for the Capstone Program.

E. Award Contract

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

A determination was made that FAA specifications were met and a contract was awarded on September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1999. The contract was for Capstone avionics systems, installation kits, terrain databases, ground-based transceivers, an avionics training simulator and training assistance.



F. Install Equipment

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00 - In Progress**

A provisioning STC, issued 16 November 1999 permits installation of the GX-50/60 GPS navigator and provisions for the Capstone configured MX-20 and UAT transceiver. Nine provisional STC kits have been forwarded to three of the Bethel commercial operators, Larry's Flying Service, Peninsula Airways, Inc., and Ptarmigan Air, for installation. One complete Capstone avionics package, to include the MX-20 multifunction display and UAT transceiver, has been installed in the University of Alaska, Anchorage Cessna 180 for certification flight-testing.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00 - In Progress**

Ten (10) airplanes were installed with Capstone avionics suits in the second quarter. These installations took place in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Bethel, Alaska. Operators participating in the Capstone program as well as independent avionics shops are participating in the installation of the Capstone avionics suites. UPS AT has delivered seventy-one (71) avionics suites to date.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00 - In Progress**

Thirty-one (31) airplanes were installed with Capstone avionics suits in the third quarter for a total of forty-one (41) installed to date.

## 2. Obtain and Install Ground Infrastructure to Support ADS-B

Objective	Purpose
To install ADS-B ground stations at up to twelve (12) locations in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta region of Alaska	To provide enhanced see and avoid information each ADS-B equipped aircraft broadcasts its precise position in space via a digital datalink along with other data, including airspeed, altitude and whether the aircraft is turning, climbing or descending. This provides other aircraft, as well as ground facilities that have ADS-B equipment a much more accurate depiction of air traffic than radar can provide. To provide the digital datalink capability in a cost-effective manner requires the installation of ground based transceivers.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Progress/Outcomes</b></p> <p>A. Coordinate and complete a Request For Information (RFI)</p> <p><b><u>Progress : - Completed</u></b></p> <p>The Alaskan Region’s Logistics Division published in the Commerce Business Daily a “Request for Information (RFI).” The RFI publicly announced to interested avionics vendors the FAA’s proposed Capstone Program and requested submission of information on their products, services, and capabilities which are currently available, to meet the needs for the Capstone program. Information provided by the five vendors who responded will be considered as the FAA prepares performance specifications for Capstone Program avionics and ground transceiver equipment.</p> <p>B. Coordinate and evaluate purchase of a Mitre Ground Station.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress</u></b></p> <p>The Alaskan Region Airway Facilities Division is in coordination with the SF21 office and Mitre/CAASD personnel regarding purchase of a Mitre ground station from the existing contract with IIMorrow for the Ohio Valley ground stations.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - On Hold</u></b></p> <p>The purchase of the Mitre ground station is on hold. The proposed vendor ground station and datalink infrastructure may not require an additional Mitre ground station. A decision will be made after the August equipment demonstration in Bethel.</p>	

***Obtain and Install Ground Infrastructure to Support ADS-B - cont.***

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

B. Coordinate and evaluate purchase of a Mitre Ground Station – cont.

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Cancelled**

The purchase of the Mitre ground station has been cancelled. The proposed vendor ground station and datalink infrastructure does not require an additional Mitre ground station.

C. Coordinate and complete a Request for Offer (RFO) for ground stations.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

The Alaskan Region's Logistics Division completed the RFO. The announcement was made on the internet March 22, 1999. The RFO will close April 26, 1999.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) for avionics suites will be published in hard copy controlled by the Logistics Division. After an initial bidding period, FAA will accept written proposals for evaluation. An independent team will then select the best apparent offer based on technical qualifications and cost considerations using previously documented objective selection criteria. The number of ground stations allowed to be purchased as a separate line item under the Avionics contract includes a minimum of 12 and maximum of 50 sets if the line item is exercised. The apparent successful vendor will be required to produce at least two sets of installed avionics (in aircraft provided by the manufacturer), a ground station, and related software to demonstrate operation of the proposed avionics system, in flight, at Bethel, Alaska in July 1999. Following a successful demonstration, the decision to order ground stations from the Avionics vendor will be made. The Avionics RFP will include a delivery line item for data link ground stations compatible with the avionics. FAA may procure all necessary units from the vendor, or purchase some or all from another source, with cost being the primary consideration. Additional units beyond the 12 immediately required may be procured from the vendor if it is determined advantageous to FAA and if funds become available.

*Obtain and Install Ground Infrastructure to Support ADS-B - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

D. Down select prospective vendor.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

UPS Aviation Technologies (formerly II Morrow, Inc), an Oregon based subsidiary of United Parcel Service was down selected. UPS AT will be required to produce at least two sets of installed avionics (in aircraft provided by UPS AT), a ground station, and related software to demonstrate operation of the proposed avionics system, in flight, at Bethel, Alaska in August 1999. Following a successful flight demonstration, a production contract will be awarded. FAA may procure all necessary units from the vendor, or purchase some or all from another source, with cost being the primary consideration. Additional units beyond the 12 immediately required may be procured if it is determined advantageous to FAA and if funds become available.

E. Conduct initial operational capability demonstration.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Planning**

The initial operational capability demonstration is planned for August 25, 1999. UPS AT will be required to produce at least two sets of installed avionics (in aircraft provided by UPS AT), a ground station, and related software to demonstrate operation of the proposed avionics system, in flight, at Bethel Alaska.

MITRE is teaming with the Alaskan Region to develop and configure an architecture and network for the Capstone program. The system will be based on the proven Ground Base Server developed by MITRE and tested on several though the Safe Flight 21 work with the CAA Ohio Valley project.

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

An initial operational capability demonstration was completed on August 25, 1999. UPS AT, using a company-owned Beechcraft King Air airplane and a specially equipped Cessna Model 208 Caravan furnished by PenAir, UPS AT, demonstrated that its proposed ground station system would meet FAA performance specifications for the Capstone Program.

*Obtain and Install Ground Infrastructure to Support ADS-B - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

F. Award contract

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

After analyzing the data from the initial operational capability demonstration a determination was made that FAA specifications were met and a contract for the ground stations was awarded on September 13<sup>th</sup>

G. Install ground stations.

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Awaiting delivery**

Seven ground stations have been ordered to date.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

Six additional ground stations were ordered in the first quarter of FY00. Two from the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY99 original order have been received. It is anticipated that the installation of these two ground stations, at Bethel and Anchorage Center, will occur second quarter of FY00.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

Two developmental Ground Based Transceivers (GBT)s were installed at Anchorage Center and Bethel during January 2000. These GBT's will be used for test and development of the ground system and will be replaced by certified units, as they become available.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

Installation at Cape Newenham Minimally Attended Radar (MAR) was completed on June 4<sup>th</sup>. The Bethel GBT was certified on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The GBT installation at Cape Romanzof is scheduled beginning the first week of July.

### 3. Micro-EARTS Adaptation

Objective	Purpose
Adapt the Micro-EARTS at the Anchorage ARTCC to receive and process ADS-B position reports and fuse radar targets for display to air traffic controllers and pilots.	To allow pilots of Capstone-equipped aircraft to see radar targets for all nearby aircraft as well as ADS-B equipped aircraft position reports and radar targets via Traffic Information Service-Broadcast (TIS-B) for all nearby traffic on their multiple function display (MFD). The Micro-EARTS at the Anchorage ARTCC is being adapted to receive and process ADS-B position reports and fuse radar targets for display to air traffic controllers and pilots.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Progress/Outcomes</b></p> <p>A. Procure and install modification to Micro-EARTS.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: -In progress</u></b></p> <p>A contract modification will be negotiated with Lockheed Martin for development of M-EARTS functions to support the Capstone Program. This principally includes display of ADS-B targets fused with radar targets and the capability to produce Traffic Information Service-Broadcast (TIS-B). Funding for this \$2.8 million contract modification has already been transferred to Headquarters. A Beta Demonstration is planned for May 1999 with a demonstration planned for July 1999.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: -Completed</u></b></p> <p>Lockheed martin Corporation representatives installed the Capstone Micro-EARTS modification during April in preparation of the Beta-demonstration.</p> <p>B. Conduct Beta Demonstration.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: -Completed</u></b></p> <p>The modification was successfully demonstrated during the week of April 19 and again on May 18-19. Radar targets were fused with ADS position reports and displayed on remote displays. Following testing, this capability is expected to reach Operational Readiness Demonstration by August 2000.</p>	

C. Design Reviews.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Planning**

Preliminary Design Review (PDR) for the MEARTS modification is scheduled for July 19-23<sup>rd</sup> July.

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

A Micro-EARTS Preliminary Design Review (PDR) at Anchorage ARTCC was completed during July. The Capstone modification to show ADS-B equipped aircraft on controller displays was discussed with Lockheed Martin representatives along with other software improvements. It will take about one year of testing before the ADS-B service can be certified for air traffic management functions.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00: - Completed**

Design reviews were completed by AOS in May 2000. Software was delivered and installed in the Anchorage ARTCC in June.

D. Certification

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Planning**

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

An initial operational capability demonstration was completed on August 25, 1999 during the Bethel demonstration. A meeting held in Salem Oregon, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 1999 resulted in a process to baseline and develop the Mitre software to be included in the certification process.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

The certification effort is proceeding on schedule to meet the August FY00 timeline. Numerous telecons have been held as a follow-up to the meeting in Oregon. An additional group meeting is scheduled for the second quarter FY00 at the Technical Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

A Capstone Engineering conference was conducted in February at the William J. Hughes Technical Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey. The principal topic was the hardware and software architecture for certification testing of the Capstone ADS-B ground system. Future system requirements for uplink of FIS-B and TIS-B products to aircraft were also discussed. In March 2000 an avionics suite was shipped from UPS AT direct to the Technical Center to support certification testing of the Capstone ground system.



D. Certification

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

IOC (Initial Operating Capability) scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> has been delayed. It is anticipated that IOC will occur in July 2000.

- a. The Micro-EARTS program was delivered and installed at the Anchorage ARTCC on June 21. An IOC evaluation, including adding the ADS-B data to the controllers' displays, was successfully completed on June 27.
- b. Air Traffic advised that two items remained before IOC could be declared: A procedures issue must be resolved between Air Traffic and Flight Standards and the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NATCA must be completed.
- c. The NATCA MOA is expected to be completed within the next two weeks. While IOC has been delayed, we don't expect any impact to the projected Operational Readiness Demonstration (ORD).

#### 4. Coordinate/Obtain/Implement Flight Information Services (FIS)

Objective	Purpose
To work in conjunction with AND-700 to obtain and field FIS.	There is a significant amount of data in the National Airspace System that, if the pilot could have access to it in the cockpit, would make the flight safer through improved situational awareness (e.g., weather information) or more cost effective (e.g., knowledge of special use airspace restrictions). Without this information the pilot faces uncertain weather hazards and other operational inefficiencies. Capstone will use the Flight Information System (FIS) to receive current and forecasted weather and weather-related information as well as the status of SUAs. The enhanced weather products will be available to pilots and controllers, allowing them to share the same situational awareness. The information will be displayed graphically to the pilot. Expected benefits: increased availability of flight services, increased timeliness and quality of data on weather and system status, increased access to airspace, and reduced flight times and distance.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Progress/Outcomes</b></p> <p>A. National contractor selection.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: -In progress</u></b></p> <p>FAA selection of a national contractor(s) is underway for delivery of FIS products to properly equipped aircraft via a data link system.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: -In progress</u></b></p> <p>FAA selection of a national contractor(s) is continuing. It appears that there will be a down select of two (2) service providers for the FISDL RFO by July 23,1999.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed</u></b></p> <p>On July 28, 1999 ARNAV Systems, Incorporated and NavRadio Corporation were selected as the national Flight Information Services Data Link (FISDL) service providers by headquarters. We will be examining the products and services offered by these vendors to determine which might be suitable for the commercial operators in the Capstone service area</p>	

*Coordinate/Obtain/Implement Flight Information Services (FIS) - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

B. Select Contractor

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

We are currently reviewing the contracts of each FISDL service provider to determine the national vendor products and services to be used in the Capstone program.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

We are continuing to work with industry and UPS AT to determine the Capstone FIS requirements.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

Capstone team members James Call and Dave Palmer met with Rita McNair, contracting officer, in headquarters during January 2000. As a result of the meeting an informational request outlining the Capstone weather requirements was prepared and sent to both FISDL vendors. The response from Honeywell (formally NavRadio Corporation) indicated that they could not meet our timeframe. A Capstone Technical Review Committee reviewed ARNAV's proposal and submitted a report of their findings to the Capstone Program manager.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00: - Completed**

On June 29<sup>th</sup> a Notice of Award letter was sent to ARNAV Systems, Incorporated. The one-year contract is to supply FIS METAR (including SPECI) and TAF products pertinent to Alaska as well as a data transmission link, and training and support provisions for the development and implementation of Capstone transmitted weather products.

## 5. Train Capstone Participants

Objective	Purpose
To ensure all participants in the Capstone program are properly trained on the Capstone avionics.	To ensure the Capstone avionics equipment is utilized properly and to the fullest to achieve the greatest benefit to enhanced safety and operational capabilities all participants must be trained.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Progress/Outcomes</b></p> <p>A. Complete the statement of work.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress</u></b></p> <p>The statement of work for training Capstone participants was delivered to the Alaskan Region's Logistics Division. The contracting officer is working with the Capstone office and the Regional Counsel Office to complete the training contract. It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded during the FY99 third quarter.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed</u></b></p> <p>The contracting officer has issued the package to UAA and received their response. It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded during the FY99 fourth quarter.</p> <p>B. Issue contract</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress</u></b></p> <p>The contracting officer has issued the package to UAA and received their response. It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded during the FY99 fourth quarter.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed</u></b></p> <p>The University of Alaska has been awarded a contract to deliver a pilot training program for the Capstone equipment and to conduct Capstone participant training.</p>	

*Train Capstone Participants - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

C. Conduct training

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Planning**

The University of Alaska is working with the Capstone office, UPS AT, Anchorage FSDO, Industry Council and the Bethel operators to develop the Capstone avionics training program. A beta training class is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY00.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Planning**

The University of Alaska conducted a beta session for the Capstone Pilot Training Program on December 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> at the Merrill Field complex. Several industry pilots were in the beta class along with an Industry Council representative, a FSDO inspector, and a pilot from the Capstone Program Office and an Air Traffic controller. Feedback from the beta class will be used to finalize the training curriculum. Formal Capstone training is scheduled to begin in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter FY00.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

The University of Alaska (UAA) is using four (4) certified Capstone simulators for pilot training. The first session of the Capstone Pilot Training Program for Air Carrier Instructors and Check Airmen was conducted in Bethel in February. Training classes will continue through the third quarter in Anchorage and Bethel. UAA received an excellent grade on the critique submitted by every student.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

UAA conducted three Air Carrier Instructors and Check Airmen training sessions during the third quarter, two in Anchorage and one in Bethel. A total of 20 participants were trained.

## 6. Obtain and Install Automated Weather Equipment

Objective	Purpose
To obtain and install Automated Weather Observing Equipment at up to 10 sites in the Capstone area.	To assist in providing weather information to accomplish IFR enroute and landings at Capstone area airports and to enable the use of the, up to eighteen, new GPS approaches requires current weather information be available. The weather observation equipment will meet at least the minimum functionality required by the Federal Aviation Regulations to support an instrument approach procedure for commercial operators. Weather sensors will provide the following observations: (a) wind speed, direction, and gusts; (b) altimeter setting; (c) temperature and dew point; (d) cloud height and sky cover; and (e) visibility. The equipment will provide an automatic radio broadcast of observations and have the capability to provide remote weather observations via a telephone line or connection to Service A.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Progress/Outcomes</b></p> <p>A. Select prospective sites:</p> <p><b><u>Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed</u></b></p> <p>The Industry Council has selected the following ten (10) villages as prospective sites for installation of automated weather equipment; Kipnuk, Platinum, Scammon Bay, Holy Cross, Kwigillingok, Kalskag, Mountain Village, Russian Mission, St. Michael, and Koliganek.</p> <p>B. Perform site surveys:</p> <p><b><u>Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress</u></b></p> <p>ANI 700 has scheduled the site surveys at the ten sites. Scheduled completion date is during the second quarter FY99.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress</u></b></p> <p>ANI 700 has completed 7 of 10 sites. The survey results will be used to install the automated weather equipment.</p>	

*Automated Weather Equipment - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

B. Perform site surveys – cont.

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

ANI 700 has completed 7 of 10 sites.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - Completed**

ANI 700 has completed the last three survey sites.

C. Procure the automated weather equipment.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

The preliminary strategy developed by the NAS Implementation Center, ANI-700, provides for procurement of 10 plastic equipment shelters under an existing government supply contract. ANI-700 plans to construct a prototype aluminum frame structure for support of weather sensors. Maintenance personnel in Anchorage will evaluate the frame, which will span the shelter, for field suitability and the design will be finalized. A competitive advertisement will next be issued to selected, pre-qualified, bidders. The contract will include procurement of FAA-certified aviation weather observation equipment of the type planned for “NEXWOS.” The sensors required will be the minimum necessary to support Capstone flight operations. The selected turnkey contractor will be responsible for fabrication of the aluminum frames per the FAA design drawings, installation of weather equipment within the government-furnished plastic shelters, transportation of all shelters, frames, and equipment to the specified village airports, and for installation at the specified locations in accordance with FAA design drawings and specifications.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed**

The 10 plastic equipment shelters were purchased and shipped to Anchorage for retrofitting. Ten AWOS III facilities were purchased from Qualimetrix, Inc. The first item arrived and is being installed in a proto-type facility being constructed at the ANI Anchorage Complex.

*Automated Weather Equipment - cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

D. Install Automated Weather Equipment

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

Four sites have been selected for installation before the end of FY99. They include Scammon Bay, Holy Cross, Mountain Village and St. Michael. Real estate and utilities coordination is ongoing.

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

A proto-type facility for the Capstone automated weather observation equipment was constructed at the ANI Anchorage Complex. A "open house" was held at the Lake Hood property to inspect and "kick the tires" on the new weather station enclosure on Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. The materials and equipment will be shipped to Holy Cross in September 1999 to begin installation.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

Phase I, which includes grounding, bonding and shelter installation was completed for four of the ten Capstone sites; Holy Cross, Mountain Village, Saint Michael and Scammon Bay. Phase II is scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of FY00.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

With the cleanup of some exceptions, Phase II is nearing completion on the first four sites.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

Mountain village completed JAI on July 3, 2000. Holly Cross, Scammon Bay and St. Michael are anticipated to be completed in July. ANI-700 expects to have the other AWOS sites commissioned by this autumn.



## 7. Conduct Safety and Human Factors Study

Objective	Purpose
To accomplish independent documentation, measurement, and reporting of the Capstone project.	A major "Capstone" objective is to improve safety in Alaska while offering efficiencies to operators. Key to the Capstones program's overall success is the need conduct an independent evaluation of system safety improvements and to document the user benefits.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Progress/Outcomes - cont.</b></p> <p>A. Complete the statement of work and issue contract.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY99: -In Progress</u></b></p> <p>The statement of work for the safety study was delivered to the Alaskan Region's Logistics Division. The contracting officer is working with the Capstone office and the Regional Counsel Office to complete the contract. It is anticipated that the contract will be let during the third quarter.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed</u></b></p> <p>The contracting officer has issued the package to UAA and received their response. It is anticipated that the contract will be led during the FY99 fourth quarter.</p> <p>B. Issue contract</p> <p><b><u>Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress</u></b></p> <p>The contracting officer has issued the package to UAA and received their response. It is anticipated that the contract will be led during the FY99 fourth quarter.</p> <p><b><u>Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - Completed</u></b></p> <p>The University of Alaska has been contracted to conduct an independent analysis of safety improvements related to the Capstone program.</p>	

*Conduct Safety and Human Factors Study – cont.*

**Progress/Outcomes - cont.**

C. Conduct Study

**Progress 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter FY99: - In Progress**

The University of Alaska is in the process of gathering data to develop the baseline for the Capstone safety study.

**Progress 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

Quarterly meetings are scheduled to discuss the study process and progress. An interim baseline report is scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter FY00.

**Progress 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

UAA has submitted an electronic preliminary baseline data to the Capstone office. A review and evaluation of the information is underway.

**Progress 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter FY00: - In Progress**

On June 9<sup>th</sup> the Capstone office forwarded a statement of work to contracting for the University of Alaska Anchorage to incorporate additional data collection for evaluation of IFR services delivered via the Capstone system. The University's original evaluation contract did not cover this subject. The contract add-on is for the gathering of data to include interviews with approximately 100 pilots twice each year of the demonstration, during summer and winter seasons.